

FOR APPROVAL

SIESTA KEY ASSOCIATION MEETING

Thursday, July 6, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

Catherine Luckner called the meeting to order. Present: Joyce Kouba, Catherine Luckner, Marilyn Romanus, Bob Spicer, and Joe Volpe.

MINUTES

Joyce Kouba

June Minutes were unanimously approved.

COMMUNITY REPORTS

Sheriff's Office

Sgt. Jason Mruzek

Sgt. Mruzek reported that the holiday weekend did not present any unusual problems. Sheriff's deputies closed and opened the beach parking lot based on available parking spots. This seemed to work well and prevents gridlock so that emergency vehicles can get through when necessary. Ideas were offered to help ease parking problems. About 40 cars were ticketed at Siesta Estates.

Beaches, Parks & Rec.

Shawn Yeager, Beach Mgr.

Cindy Turner, Siesta Supervisor

Shawn thanked Keep Sarasota County Beautiful, the Sheriff's Department, Public Works, Roads and Bridges, media, and all volunteers for their hard work to help maintain Sarasota beaches. During special events, Parks and Rec. adds trash cans and trash pickups to the normal schedule. This year yellow trash bags were handed out to visitors throughout the holiday weekend. This seemed to reduce trash left on the beach. Trash collection for the weekend: Lido, 40 tons; South County, 58 tons; Siesta, 65 tons. Cindy acknowledged the Beach Club and Veronica Murphy for their special efforts in collecting trash after the holiday. Mike Holderness wondered about curbing cigarette butts in the Village, because

they end up in the Gulf. SKA will investigate the possibility of installing urns in the Village.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Sarasota Ocean Preservers

Brooke Welch

Brooke founded Sarasota Ocean Preservers to focus on Lido Key beach cleanups. She has also introduced the Lido Jetty to many visitors as one of the best shore-accessible snorkeling sites on the west coast, north of the keys. Brooke showed her “Marine Organisms at Lido Jetty” Youtube video, to illustrate the vibrant marine life located just offshore. Over 145 species have been identified. It is an important spawning ground and safe haven for the growing invertebrates. The jetty faces destruction by the Army Core of Engineers (ACOE) Lido beach renourishment, which will bury the entire habitat and all animals living there. To view this valuable natural resource, find the Ocean Preservers Youtube channel at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaswM2AeuNMg3vKjCd0v_bQ.

Big Pass Dredge

Catherine Luckner

Bob Luckner showed diagrams from the ACOE’s own study, illustrating the increased wave energy which will hit north Siesta Key and other areas in Big Pass as a result of the ACOE proposed dredge project. After dredging, as much as 50% to 100% additional wave energy will batter the shores. Attendees were concerned that the public is generally unaware of the full impact of the dredge project and that most people believe this is just a sand war between Lido and Siesta. People urged SKA to publicize the scope of the impact quickly through multiple media sources.

To help fund SKA’s legal case, Catherine announced a generous matching challenge by the Friends of Siesta Key. They will match every donation up to a total of \$10,000, so that \$10,000 in donations will generate \$20,000. To help SKA meet this challenge, go to: <http://www.SKEDF.org>.

ADJOURNMENT

Catherine adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Kouba

Secretary, Siesta Key Association

Next SKA monthly meeting is August 3, 2017 at 4:30 pm.

For Approval